savings schemes include Equity Linked Savings Scheme, 2005 and the Public Provident Fund established under Public Provident Fund Scheme, 1968. The necessary notifications in this regard have already been issued.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Those investing in the PPF cannot invest up to rupees one lakh as the PPF Scheme provides for a ceiling of Rs. 70,000/-for investment in the said fund.

Tax concessions for Food Processing Industry

1427. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Food Processing Industry met the Prime Minister in September and submitted a memorandum for tax concessions for the industry;

(b) if so, the details of the demands submitted by the delegation; and

(c) the action taken by Government so far thereto/proposed to be taken in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fiscal deficit of States

1428. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has expressed concern about the country's financial health and has asked for control over the fiscal deficit of the Centre and States;

(b) what is the current fiscal deficit and what are the reasons of its unabated rise; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to control this deficit both at the Centre and in the States?